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births excluded) reported during the week ending October 12, 1918, with death rates, in large cities of the United States, together with the number of deaths from influenza and pneumonia occurring in the course of five weeks.

THE BALTIMORE MEETING OF THE AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF SCIENCE

THE meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the national scientific societies affiliated with it, which it has been planned to hold this year in Boston has been transferred to Baltimore in order to reduce as much as possible the need for traveling and to be near Washington, which has become the center of scientific activity of the country. It is planned that the programs of the association and of the affiliated societies shall be mainly directed to questions of national welfare, national efficiency and national defense; they will demonstrate the value of science and of the work of scientific men to the country in the present emergency. It may be expected that through conferences which at the time can not be made public, direct contributions will be made that will be of service in the conduct of the war.

Dr. L. O. Howard, the permanent secretary of the association, under the date of October 16, addressed the following letter to the secretaries of the affiliated societies.

Something of a complication has arisen in connection with the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the affiliated societies:

The Johns Hopkins University has taken on the Students Army Training Corps and, therefore, its courses are largely revised and its faculty is very busy. Their Christmas vacation runs only from the 22d to the 29th of December, both dates inclusive.

I had expected to be able to utilize the facilities of Goucher College, but this institution has now been closed by the epidemic of influenza and will probably have to be in session during Christmas week.

The present situation leaves for our meeting dates the 23d and 24th (then comes Christ-

mas Day) and the 26th to the 28th, these being the only dates in which certain of the lecture rooms of Johns Hopkins can be used by us.

The committee on policy of the association has decided to adhere to its decision to meet in Baltimore, but there must be some change in plans, both on account of the small size and number of lecture rooms available and the fact that there are practically no hotel accommodations. Members will have to rely almost entirely upon lodging-houses, hence it becomes practically necessary that the meeting be a small one, but we will go ahead and do what we can.

With this understanding, will you please let me know if you still wish to meet in Baltimore and whether, in your opinion, you can make your meeting a small one devoted largely to immediate problems? And then, will you let me know so soon as possible the number and size of rooms you will need and everything which should go into the program? Please let me know also the dates which you will choose for your meetings.

It is obvious that for certain of the affiliated societies the 23d and 24th should be selected and, for others, the 26th to the 28th, since rooms vacated on the night of the 24th can be used by members of the affiliated societies meeting on the 26th to the 28th.

It is planned to have the opening meeting of the American Association on the night of Thursday, December 26, although meetings of the sections may be held during the day of the 26th.

I shall be glad to hear from you speedily as practically the whole arrangements for the meeting will be in the hands of this office since we can not place any of the burden on the Johns Hopkins' people under the present circumstances.

If you have some good member of your society resident in Baltimore to whom you wish to entrust your special arrangements, please tell me and let me know his name; otherwise, please state distinctly whether you wish this office to make all arrangements for you.

I wish to repeat that I should like to receive your answer as soon as possible.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE following officers of the Medical Corps, U. S. A., have been promoted from major to lieutenant-colonel: Edward J. G. Beardsley, Philadelphia; Thomas P. Lloyd, Shreveport, La.; James A. Mattison, Hot Springs, S. D.; Joseph Sailer, Philadelphia; Oliver H. Campbell, St. Louis; Bertram F. Alden, San Francisco; Walter W. Crawford, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Jonathan E. Burns, Baltimore; Charles N. B. Camac, New York; William C. LeCompte, Bristol, Pa.; Harry T. Summersgill, San Francisco; Charles H. Schlichter, Elizabeth, N. J.; Edward W. Pinkham, New York; William J. Bell, Washington, D. C.; Warren A. Dennis, St. Paul; Joshua C. Hubbard, John H. Blackburn, Bowling Green, Ky.; Edmund J. Doering, Chicago; John E. Jennings, Brooklyn; William W. Percy, Rochester, N. Y.; John H. Blackburn, Bowling Green, Ky.; Edmund Moss, New Orleans; Henry R. Brown, Albuquerque, N. M.; Robert Smart, Coronado, Calif.; Herbert H. Smith, Highland, Kan.

COLONEL EDWARD L. MUNSON, for twenty-five years an officer of the Medical Corps, U. S. A., has been promoted to the rank of brigadier-general, and with the promotion selected for duty on the general staff. The new commission is in the line of the army. General Munson is the third medical officer of the army to be given general officer's rank for duty outside the Medical Department of the army, the previous appointees being Generals Ainsworth and Leonard Wood.

RECALL to the active list of Major-General William C. Gorgas, former Surgeon-General of the army, who recently was retired for age, and his assignment to active duty in the same rank of the Medical Corps has been announced by Secretary Baker. General Gorgas will complete the inspection of medical conditions in France and England, on which he now is engaged, and then will return to the United States to submit a report. His next assignment may take him to Italy.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FRANK P. UNDERHILL, professor of experimental medicine at Yale University, in charge of the New Haven Station, Chemical Warfare Service, has arrived safely overseas. Lieutenant-Colonel Underhill is accompanied by the following officers of the station: First Lieutenants Henry D. Hooker, Jr., and Carl H. Greene; Second Lieutenants Alfred Chanutin and Arthur H. Smith.

DR. PIERRE A. FISH, professor of physiology, and head of the physiology department of the college of veterinary medicine of Cornell University, has been commissioned a major in the Veterinary Corps, U. S. Army. He has been granted a leave of absence from the university for the duration of the war.

ALFRED J. LARSON, Ph.D. (Harvard), assistant professor of chemistry, Carleton College, has been in the chemical service of the government for a year and was recently commissioned as captain.

JAMES EWING, D.Sc. (Aberdeen), assistant professor of biology, Carleton College, has been since a year ago in the Canadian Army and is at present an instructor in the Canadian university back of the lines with the rank of sergeant.

DR. ROSWELL P. ANGIER, professor of psychology at Yale University, is a captain in the Sanitary Corps, National Army, at the Hazelhurst Field Medical Research Laboratory, Mineola, L. I.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR JACOBS, of the zoological department of the University of Pennsylvania, has received a captain's commission in the Food Administration.

PROFESSOR LIGHTNER WITMER, head of the department of psychology at the University of Pennsylvania, has returned from his work with the Red Cross in Italy and will be on active duty this year.

INFORMATION has been received through private sources to the effect that Professor Charles Barrois, well known to many geologists in the United States, is still in Lille and in good health. His movements have been restricted and no communication was held with